

11/4/55 EDR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 1, 1955

Dear Allen:

In connection with the attached New York Times article concerning the Soviet TV offer to Finland, would it be possible for the United States to make recorded TV programs available to the Finns so that they could open their own TV broadcasting station with our help. They could televise their own radio newscasters and commentators to fill in.

It seems to me the industry might be willing to cooperate in making available film for this purpose until such time as Finland has its own program operating on a commercial or government-sponsored basis. I should think a real job could be done to cut the feet out from under the Soviets without too much cost. From the story it would appear that we should also try to encourage export of lower cost receivers.

It might be interesting to work out a NATO television network, a proposal being made by Steve Possony in one of our forthcoming panel papers, which will be available in the next week or so. This same problem will undoubtedly be showing up in other areas and perhaps it would be better to deal with it on a large scale basis rather than piecemeal.

I am also bringing this to Ted's attention.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


Nelson A. Rockefeller

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency

October 30, 1955

SOVIET TV OPENING DRIVE ON FINLAND

Russians Aim for Monopoly
in Videoless Nation—Tallinn
Station Starts Tuesday

By HARRY SCHWARTZ

Special to The New York Times

HELSINKI, Finland, Oct. 24.—The Soviet Union is trying to gain a television monopoly in Finland.

Finland has no television station. A high powered Soviet station will begin regular broad-

casts Tuesday in Tallinn, capital of Soviet Estonia. Tallinn is only thirty-five miles from Helsinki across the Gulf of Finland, and test broadcasts from there have already been received clearly here.

The Soviet Government has presented gift television sets with about ten-inch screens to a group of Finnish leaders, including President Juho Paasikivi.

The Russians propose to sell Soviet television sets here for about 50,000 marks (about \$225). The same sets retail in the Soviet Union at several times the comparable price in rubles. Comparable Western sets cost 100,000 marks or more here.

Soviet television broadcasts

casts. As a result, the differences from

received fully video and sound only

get fifteen-year rights for ma-

never purposes to 7,000,000

For the month of acres of land and has promised

scale commercials to reactivate Camp Polk on a

Soviet television permanent basis if these can be

stopped by a ruling obtained. Last week fifteen-

characteristics of unsatisfactory a.

Air Force participating units

and other hazards will cover a seven-state area

TV May Be Topic at Talks

But these defects can be remedied, and there is a widespread suspicion that in the current Soviet-Finnish trade negotiations in Moscow Soviet representatives will press for large-scale Finnish imports of Soviet sets.

Informed sources report that

the nearest Soviet

vision station, it

is too far for a

broadcast to be

The Finnish Go

organization has

build its own te

However, there

private Finnish

that are intereste

private television